

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for thermally treating a light alloy casting, comprising a step of: heating under atmospheric pressure a light alloy casting up to a solid solution range and maintaining it at such heating temperature T; and a step of quenching the light alloy casting through a cooling medium while pressurizing it.

2. (Original) A process for thermally treating a light alloy casting according to claim 1, wherein the heating temperature T is set at $T > T_s$, wherein T_s represents a solidus-line temperature for a light alloy forming the light alloy casting.

3. (New) A process for thermally treating a light alloy casting according to claim 1, wherein the step of quenching is carried out under the application of pressure P in a range of $200 \text{ bar} \leq P \leq 2,000 \text{ bar}$.

4. (New) A process for thermally treating a light alloy casting according to claim 2, wherein the step of quenching is carried out under the application of pressure P in a range of $200 \text{ bar} \leq P \leq 2,000 \text{ bar}$.